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17. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, further storing therein a control program for inserting the non-displayed character data which is stored in the other storage means in a position which is specified with a cursor.

18. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, wherein said control program for displaying displays character data which is arranged in the area and a frame representing the area.

19. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, wherein said control program for arranging arranges the character data in accordance with a format which is decided for every area.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 21, 2002 (Paper No. 6). Claims 1 to 19 are currently in the application, of which Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 6, 12 and 19 were objected to for informalities. In response, Applicant has carefully reviewed and amended these claims to attend to the informalities raised in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection to Claims 1 to 6, 12 and 19 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0015167 (Watanabe). Applicant has carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the applied reference and respectfully submits that the claims herein are patentably distinguishable over the applied reference for at least the following reasons.

The present invention concerns the processing of character data to be displayed in a display area. In conventional systems, when character data exceeds the capacity of a display area, the portion of the character data that cannot be displayed in the display area is often simply omitted or deleted from that portion of the character data which can be displayed in the display area. The present invention addresses this shortcoming of conventional systems by storing character data which cannot be displayed in a display area in storage means. Specifically, according to the present invention, when a predetermined designation to the display area is selected by a user, character data which cannot be displayed in the display area is stored in different storage means.

With reference to particular claim language, independent Claims 1 and 7 concern character processing where information relating to an area for displaying character data is stored in first storage means and character data in association with the area for displaying character data is stored in second storage means. The character data stored in the second storage means is arranged in a display area created in accordance with the information stored in the first storage means. Character data which can be arranged in the display area is displayed and it is judged whether a predetermined designation to the display area is selected by a user. When it is judged that the predetermined designation is

selected, character data which cannot be displayed in the display area is stored in third storage means different from the second storage means.

Independent Claims 13 and 14 concern character processing in which character data, which is stored in storage means in association with an area in which the character data is to be displayed, is arranged in the area and the character data which can be arranged in the area is displayed. It is judged whether a predetermined designation to the area is selected by a user, and if the predetermined designation is selected, character data which cannot be displayed in the area is stored in another storage means.

The applied reference is not understood to disclose the foregoing features of the present invention. In particular, the applied reference is not understood to disclose at least the feature of storing character information, which cannot be displayed in a display area, in a different storage means when a predetermined designation to the display area is selected by a user.

Watanabe concerns a system for inputting a character string and forming the character string on a seal. As described in paragraph 161 of Watanabe, when input characters exceed the allowable number of characters for a particular seal, the overflow characters are shown in the display area with plex. However, Watanabe is not understood to store the overflow characters in a different storage means when a predetermined designation to a display area is selected by a user. Rather, Watanabe is understood to expel the overflow characters, as discussed in paragraph 166, and erase the overflow characters from the input character string, as discussed in paragraph 177. Therefore, Watanabe is not understood to disclose at least the feature of storing character information, which cannot be

displayed in a display area, in a different storage means when a predetermined designation to the display area is selected by a user.


Therefore, independent Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 are believed to be allowable over the applied references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection of Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 are respectfully requested.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed to be allowable over the applied reference for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California, office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A character processing apparatus comprising:

[a] first storage means for storing [therein] information relating to an area
for displaying character data;

[a] second storage means for storing [therein] character data in association
with [an] the area [from which the character data is to be outputted] for displaying
character data;

arrangement means for arranging the character data stored in said second
storage means in [an] a display area [which is] created in accordance with the information
stored in said first storage means;

display means for displaying the character data which can be arranged in the
display area by said arrangement means;

[judgement] judgment means for judging whether [or not, when the
character data is arranged by said arrangement means, there is character data which can not
be arranged] a predetermined designation to the display area is selected by a user; and

control means for carrying out [the] control in such a way that [said non-
arranged] character data which cannot be displayed in the display area is stored in third
storage means different from said second storage means when said judgment means judges
that the predetermined designation is selected.

2. (Amended) A character processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [when displaying the area for which it is judged by said judgement means that there is said non-arranged character data, a mark is displayed together therewith which reports that there is the non-arranged character data] when character data which cannot be displayed in the display area exists, said display means displays a mark to report that the non-displayed character data exists.

3. (Amended) A character processing apparatus according to claim 1, [wherein the] further comprising inserting means for inserting the non-displayed character data which has been stored in said third storage means [is arranged in an] in another display area different from the display area which is created in accordance with the information stored in said first storage means.

4. (Amended) A character processing apparatus according to claim 1, [wherein] further comprising inserting means for inserting the non-displayed character data stored in said third storage means [is arranged in the] in a position which is specified [by] with a cursor.

5. (Amended) A character processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display means displays the character data [which has been] arranged in the display area and a frame [data] representing [an] the display area [are both displayed].

6. (Amended) A character processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said arrangement means arranges the character data in accordance with [the] a format which is decided for every area.

7. (Amended) A character processing method of controlling a character processing apparatus, the character processing apparatus including first storage means for storing [therein] information relating to an area [in a first step, and of] for displaying character data and second storage means for storing [therein] character data [in a second step] in association with [an] the area [from which the character data is to be outputted] for displaying character data, said method comprising the steps of:

arranging the character data stored in [said] the second storage [step] means in [an] a display area [which is] created in accordance with the information stored in [said] the first storage [step] means;

displaying the character data which can be arranged in the display area;

judging whether [or not, when the character data is arranged, there is character data which can not be arranged] a predetermined designation to the display area is selected by a user; and

carrying out [the] control in such a way that [said non-arranged] character data which cannot be displayed in the display area is stored in [a] third storage [step] means different from [said] the second storage [step] means when, in said judging step, it is judged that the predetermined designation is selected.

8. (Amended) A character processing method according to claim 7, wherein [when displaying the area for which it is judged that there is said non-arranged character data, a mark is displayed together therewith which reports that there is the non-arranged character data] when character data which cannot be displayed in the display area exists, a mark to report that non-displayed character data exists is displayed in said displaying step.

9. (Amended) A character processing method according to claim 7, [wherein] further comprising the step of inserting the non-displayed character data [which has been] stored in [said] the third storage [step is arranged in an] means to another display area different from the display area which is created in accordance with the information stored in [said] the first storage [step] means.

10. (Amended) A character processing method according to claim 7, [wherein] further comprising the step of inserting the non-displayed character data stored in [said] the third storage [step is arranged in the] means to a position which is specified [by] with a cursor.

11. (Amended) A character processing method according to claim 7, wherein said displaying step displays the character data [which has been] arranged in the display area and a frame [data] representing [an] the display area [are both displayed].

12. (Amended) A character processing method according to claim 7, wherein [with respect to the arrangement of the character data,] the character data is arranged in said arranging step in accordance with [the] a format which [has been] is decided for every area.

13. (Amended) A character processing method, comprising the steps of:
arranging character data, which is stored in storage [step] means in association with an area [from] in which the character data is to be [outputted] displayed, in the [associated] area;

displaying the character data which can be arranged in the area;

judging whether [or not there is character data which can not be arranged in the area] a predetermined designation to the area is selected by a user; and

carrying out [the] control in such a way that [said non-arranged] character data which cannot be displayed in the area is [read out in the storage step to be stored in another storage step] stored in another storage means different from the storage means when it is judged, in said judging step, that the predetermined designation is selected.

14. (Amended) A storage medium from which [the] data can be read out by a computer, said storage medium storing therein:

a control program for arranging character data, which is stored in storage means in association with an area [from] in which the character data is to be [outputted] displayed, in the associated area;

a control program for displaying the character data which can be arranged in the area;

a control program for judging whether [or not there is character data which can not be arranged in the area] a predetermined designation to the area is selected by a user; and

a control program for carrying out [the] control in such a way that [said non-arranged] character data which cannot be displayed in the area is [read out from said storage means to be stored in another storage means] stored in another storage means different from then storage means when it is judged that the predetermined designation is selected

15. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, [further storing therein a] wherein when character data which cannot be arranged in the area exists, [control program for displaying, when displaying the area for which it is judged that there is said non-arranged character data, a mark together therewith which reports that there is the non-arranged character data] a mark to report that the non-displayed character data exists is displayed by said control program for displaying.

16. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, further storing therein a control program for [arranging] inserting the character data which [has been] is stored in [said an] the other storage means [in] to an area different from [the] a display area which is created in accordance with the information stored in [said] the storage means.

17. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, further storing therein a control program for [arranging] inserting the non-displayed character data which [has been] is stored in [said an] the other storage means in a position which is specified [by] with a cursor.

18. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, [further storing therein a] wherein said control program for displaying displays [both of] character data which [has been] is arranged in the area and a frame [data] representing [an] the area.

19. (Amended) A storage medium according to claim 14, [further storing therein a] wherein said control program for arranging arranges the character data in accordance with [the] a format which is decided for every area.

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